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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY USSR

SUBJECT Port of Archangel

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[THE OFFICE OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE FURNISHED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION TO CIA FOR IAC DISSEMINATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH PARAGRAPH 3C OF NSCID #7.]

1. The vessel [redacted] arrived at Archangel, Russia [redacted] in ballast. [redacted] the ship departed Archangel with a cargo of lumber [redacted] The cargo was unloaded and [redacted] the ship departed [redacted] for Archangel once again [redacted] With another cargo of lumber, the vessel sailed from Archangel [redacted]

2. Approximately ten miles outside the entrance to the Syevernaya Dvina River, the pilot was picked up. "The White Sea Pilot" indicates that there are three principal channels in the estuary of the Syevernaya Dvina: Murmainski from north-westward; Pudozhenski from westward; and Bervozovv from northward. [redacted] ship made the approach from the last-mentioned; [redacted] the navigation guides were good. There are also several secondary channels. These channels lie between numerous islands which are mostly composed of sand and clay, with steep sides 14 feet and less in height, but the outer ones are so low that they are nearly covered during very high tides; they are mostly level and covered with trees and shrubs. The mainland coast on each side is about 70 feet high, with occasional cliffs from 20 to 35 feet high; the hills are covered with trees, and the ravines are partially cultivated. Farther inland within the Lyetni coast there are some isolated hills, from about 200 to 260 feet high. The coasts of the mainland and the islands, as well as the banks and depths in the channels, are subject to great changes caused by erosion of the banks by ice, and by deposit of silt from the river. The chart, even if comparatively recent, must therefore be used with caution." Quoted from "The White Sea Pilot".

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3. From the point where the ship picked up the pilot to where it docked, the shoreline was described as being level, with trees extending to the shoreline. The soil make-up [redacted]
4. [redacted] compared it with the smaller lumber cities on the West Coast of the US. [redacted] many sawmills along the river which were working day and night. [redacted] there was little activity on the river and at the pier; that there were no large warehouses or other stowage facilities in the area; and that one street-car track ran along-side the dock, the gauge of which was smaller than that used in this country. The roads were described as being 12 to 24 feet in width and very poor, unfit to handle any heavy equipment. The pier is equipped with a few small cranes and lumber lifts, but there were no facilities in the immediate area capable of loading or unloading heavy equipment. The docks were described as being of the slip way type, capable of handling a 100' ship. Tugs are required in berthing. The personnel working on the pier consisted of both men and women. The women were primarily engaged as checkers, tellers and sweepers.
5. [redacted] the weather in Archangel [redacted] comparable to that of the US midwest area. This period comprises the shipping season. The current in the river varies depending on the amount of rainfall, but the river is continually muddy.
6. At the entrance to the Syevernaya Dvina River, a searching party boarded the vessel; they were very thorough.
7. [redacted] a patrol boat, smaller than our torpedo boats, maintained a surveillance of the ship the entire time she was in port. This patrol boat was noticed [redacted] at the entrance to the river. [redacted] 12 torpedo boats, smaller than ours, on the river as well as a small repair ship.
8. [redacted] flying aircraft. These consisted of both jets and conventional types and were frequently seen passing overhead as if on patrol and practicing maneuvers. No airfields were observed in the area.
9. [redacted] the ship's crew was transported to and from a seamen's club by visits to the club were for propaganda purposes by the Russians.

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